

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): For an applicator head for a device having an air suction source for applying labels to objects, comprising:

an applicator surface for connection to said air suction source and having spaced perforatable weak locations which can be selectively perforated to provide holes in a desired configuration.

Claim 2 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 1, wherein the weak locations are regularly arranged.

Claim 3 (currently amended): An applicator head as in claim 2, wherein the weak locations are distributed over the entire ~~application~~ applicator surface.

Claim 4 (currently amended): An applicator head as in claim 1, further comprising grooves in the applicator surface.

Claim 5 (currently amended): An applicator head as in claim 3, wherein the weak locations are arranged in columns ~~and grooves~~.

Claim 6 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 1, further comprising:

an applicator pad coupled to the applicator surface; and
a mounting frame releaseably connected to the applicator pad.

Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (currently amended): An applicator head as in claim ~~4~~ 6, wherein the mounting frame includes two C-shaped guide rails that extend in parallel relationship and into which the applicator pad can be reversibly inserted.

Claim 9 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 6, further having an abutment means positioned to hold the applicator pad in place relative to the mounting frame.

Claim 10 (previously presented): An applicator head for an applicator device as in claim 6, wherein the applicator pad is releasably lockable to the mounting frame of a locking device.

Claim 11 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 10, wherein the locking device comprises a spring-loaded ball.

Claim 12 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 10, wherein the abutment means is formed by the locking device.

Claim 13 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 6, wherein the applicator pad is formed from a carrier plate and an applicator plate.

Claim 14 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 13, wherein the applicator plate and the carrier plate are non-releasably connected together.

Claim 15 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 13, further comprising a second surface parallel to the applicator surface, the second surface having at least two further weak locations which are aligned with the weak locations at the applicator surface.

Claim 16 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 1, wherein the weak locations are perforatable by a tool having a handle.

Claim 17 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 13, wherein the carrier plate is provided with a coupling for releasable attachment with the suction air source.

Claim 18 (currently amended): An applicator head as in claim 13, wherein the applicator plate ~~are~~ is comprised of a deformable material.

Claim 19 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 1, wherein the weak locations are arranged in a raster grid configuration.

Claim 20 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 1, wherein the weak locations are arranged in rows and columns.

Claim 21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (currently amended): An applicator head as in claim 13, wherein the applicator plate includes the ~~application~~ applicator surface.

Claim 23 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 13, wherein the carrier plate and the applicator plate define at least one hollow space between them.

Claim 24 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 14, wherein the applicator plate and the carrier plate are glued together.

Claim 25 (previously presented): An applicator head for a device having an air suction source for applying individual flat material elements to objects, the applicator head comprising:

- an applicator surface connected to said air suction source and having at least two perforatable, weak locations being recesses having a bottom which can be perforated by a suitable tool;

- an applicator pad coupled to the applicator surface;
- a mounting frame releasably connected to the applicator pad;

- the applicator pad is formed from a carrier plate and an applicator plate; and

- a second surface parallel to the applicator surface, the second surface having at least two further weak locations which are aligned with the weak locations at the applicator surface,

- wherein the further weak locations are separated from the weak locations by a thin material skin.

Claim 26 (previously presented): An applicator head as in claim 18, wherein the deformable material is plastic.

Claim 27 (previously presented): For an applicator head for a device having an air suction source for applying labels to objects: an applicator plate composed of a perforatable material and having spaced perforatable weak locations, wherein only selected ones of the perforatable weak locations are perforated to provide holes through the plate in a desired configuration.

Claim 28 (previously presented): An applicator plate as defined in claim 27, wherein the weak locations are arranged in a grid configuration.

Claim 29 (previously presented): An applicator plate as defined in claim 27 in combination with an applicator head.

Claim 30 (previously presented): Method of making an applicator plate useful in a suction-type label applicator head, comprising:

providing an applicator plate having spaced perforatable weak locations, and

thereafter perforating only selected ones of the weak locations of the plate to form an operational surface of a desired configuration of holes through the plate.

Claim 31 (previously presented): Method as defined in claim 30, including thereafter assembling the applicator plate onto an label applicator head.